

**INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

M: 23-66

Property/District Name: Bordley's Choice (aka Merrywood & Marywood) Survey Number: M-23-64Project: MD 97:Gold Mine Road to Camp Bennett Agency: FHWA/SHASite visit by MHT Staff: X no yes Name Date Eligibility recommended X Eligibility **not** recommended Criteria: X A X B X C D Considerations: A B C D E F G None

Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)

Based on the available information, Bordley's Choice appears to be eligible for the National Register under criterion C for architecture, under criterion B for its association with at least one prominent individual, and criterion A for education. Begun in 1763 and expanded in 1869, this massive fieldstone structure was associated in its early years with prominent members of the Riggs family and served for over fifty years as the prestigious Brookeville Academy, a private school for boys started in 1815. A smaller stone house, incorporated into the southeast corner of the present building was the home of Thomas Riggs of Samuel, a successful farmer, active in local affairs, and a founder of the Brookeville Academy. It was here that Samuel Riggs, prominent New York and Baltimore banker, was born in 1800. Further documentation would be needed to justify use criterion B for the association with Samuel however, as other properties may be more strongly associated with him. Under criteria A, the property is significant for its association with the Brookeville Academy. The academy began in a smaller building located in the town of Brookeville and in 1868 moved to Bordley's Choice. The original stone house was greatly expanded and the mansard roof was added to accommodate the new use. The academy played an important role in education in Montgomery County in the period before public education was well established. The building would also appear to be significant under criterion C for a number of reasons. It is an unusually large example of stone construction for the period and a significant and early example Empire style. Without knowing more about the condition of the interior and the affects of a succession of private and institutional owners after the academy closed in 1923, it is difficult to say with any certainty that the building is significant as an example of a mid-19th century school architecture. From the exterior photographs, it appears that the 20th century alterations could be fairly extensive and the issue of integrity deserves further investigation. However, Gwen Marcus of the Montgomery County Preservation Commission was quite clear in her opinion that the property is eligible.

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Project file, Maryland Inventory
Form #23-66Prepared by: Rita Suffness, Christopher Owens ('74 form), Roberta Hahn ('79 form)Elizabeth Hannold
Reviewer, Office of Preservation ServicesSeptember 29, 1995
DateNR program concurrence: ✓ yes no not applicableQuinn B. Pelletier
Reviewer, NR program10-2-95
Date

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MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT

I. Geographic Region:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Eastern Shore	(all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Western Shore	(Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's and St. Mary's)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Piedmont	(Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Western Maryland	(Allegany, Garrett and Washington)

II. Chronological/Developmental Periods:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Paleo-Indian	10000-7500 B.C.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Early Archaic	7500-6000 B.C.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Middle Archaic	6000-4000 B.C.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Late Archaic	4000-2000 B.C.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Early Woodland	2000-500 B.C.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Middle Woodland	500 B.C. - A.D. 900
<input type="checkbox"/>	Late Woodland/Archaic	A.D. 900-1600
<input type="checkbox"/>	Contact and Settlement	A.D. 1570-1750
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rural Agrarian Intensification	A.D. 1680-1815
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Agricultural-Industrial Transition	A.D. 1815-1870
<input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial/Urban Dominance	A.D. 1870-1930
<input type="checkbox"/>	Modern Period	A.D. 1930-Present
<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown Period (<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/> historic)	

III. Prehistoric Period Themes:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Subsistence
<input type="checkbox"/>	Settlement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Political
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demographic
<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion
<input type="checkbox"/>	Technology
<input type="checkbox"/>	Environmental Adaption

IV. Historic Period Themes:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning
<input type="checkbox"/>	Economic (Commercial and Industrial)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Government/Law
<input type="checkbox"/>	Military
<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion
<input type="checkbox"/>	Social/Educational/Cultural
<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation

V. Resource Type:

Category: BuildingHistoric Environment: RuralHistoric Function(s) and Use(s): Domestic - Single dwelling, Educational-schoolKnown Design Source: na

ACHS SUMMARY FORM

M:23-66
(date entered 5-13-80)

1. Name: Bordley's Choice
2. Planning Area/Site Number: 23/66 3. M-NCPPC Atlas Reference: Map 9
H-14
4. Address: Route 97, Brookeville
5. Classification Summary
- | | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Category | <u>building</u> | Previous Survey Recording | <u>M-NCPPC</u> |
| Ownership | <u>private</u> | Title and Date: | <u>1976 Inventory of</u>
<u>Historical Sites</u> |
| Public Acquisition | <u>N/A</u> | | |
| Status | <u>occupied</u> | | |
| Accessible | <u>no</u> | Federal | <u>State</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>County</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Local</u> |
| Present use | <u>private residence</u> | | |
6. Date: 1796-1814 7. Original Owner: Thomas Riggs
8. Apparent Condition
- a. good b. altered c. original site
9. Description: According to Farquhar, this was known as "Ziegler's Choice". This fieldstone three bay by four bay house has been changed. It faces west. The original structure was what is now the southeast corner room. A cornerstone states 1765. A second cornerstone, at the southwest corner, has the date 1833 and initials "WFJ 93, WFB". There is a central two bay projecting pavilion on west elevation. A two story porch with flat roof supported by two giant Doric order columns. There are six-over-nine double-hung windows flanked by white wooden louvered shutters. Two dormer windows on the north and south elevations. The house has a mansard roof with slate tiles and a denticulated cornice line.
10. Significance: Bordley's Choice, for many years the home of the famous Brookeville Academy, was associated with the prominent Riggs family of Montgomery County in its early years. When Samuel Riggs died in 1814 part of his bequest to his son Thomas was 100 acres of "Bordley's Choice". It is popularly believed that Thomas had been living on that acreage and had built a home there around 1796 when he married his cousin Mary Hammond Riggs, although this had not been documented. After his inheritance he was assessed not only for his land, 80 acres of "Bordley's Choice" @ \$4.92 per acre, but for \$113 of other property, and for two slaves, which would indicate a real homestead.
- In 1867 the house was described as a "fine stone dwelling, comfortable kitchen, stone dairy, ...all in good repair."
- Trustees of the Brookeville Academy bought the property in 1869, and remodeled it for use as a school, incorporating the original stone house into a larger building.
- In 1941 the property was tastefully restored for use as a dwelling. In 1961 it was again purchased by an institution, the Convent of Jesus and Mary, and the dining room was converted into a chapel.
- Since 1966 Bordley's Choice has been the home of the present owners.
11. Researcher and date researched: Roberta Hahn-7/79 Candy Reed
Arch, Description
12. Compiler: Margaret Coleman 13. Date Compiled: 10/79 14. Designation
Approval
15. Acreage: 20.41 acres

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

M: 23/66
Mag1 #

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Bordley's Choice

AND/OR COMMON

Merrywood

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Route 97

CITY, TOWN

Brookeville

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

8

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

—DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
—STRUCTURE
—SITE
—OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

—PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
—BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

—IN PROCESS
—BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
—UNOCCUPIED
—WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
—YES: RESTRICTED
—YES: UNRESTRICTED
☒ NO

PRESENT USE

—AGRICULTURE —MUSEUM
—COMMERCIAL —PARK
—EDUCATIONAL ☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
—ENTERTAINMENT —RELIGIOUS
—GOVERNMENT —SCIENTIFIC
—INDUSTRIAL —TRANSPORTATION
—MILITARY —OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Dr. M.J. Reitman

Telephone #: 774-9444

STREET & NUMBER

Route 97

CITY, TOWN

Brookeville

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 20729

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #: 3512

Folio #: 481

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

MNCPPC Inventory of Historical Sites

DATE

1976

—FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☒ COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Park Historian's Office

CITY, TOWN

Derwood

STATE

Maryland 20855

7 DESCRIPTION

M:23-66

CONDITION

___EXCELLENT
☒GOOD
___FAIR

___DETERIORATED
___RUINS
___UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

___UNALTERED
☒ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ORIGINAL SITE
___MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Built on fieldstone foundations, of random uncoursed fieldstone, this three bay by four bay house has undergone several metamorphoses. The house faces west today. However, the southeast corner room was the first structure to be erected on the site. It was a one room two story stone house with a corner stone inscribed with the date 1765. A second cornerstone, at the southwest corner bears the date 1833 and the initials "WFJ 93, WFB".

The west (front) elevation has a central two story projecting pavilion. There is a two story porch with a flat roof supported by two giant Doric columns. A run of north and south steps leads to a central landing between the columns and before the door. The door is set in a deeply recessed surround. It is wooden paneled and surmounted by a four light transom. The doorway is further defined by the stonework which projects about the door frame. A second stairway leads down below the porch to the basement door. Although the house is constructed of stone, there are segmental and flat brick arches and sills at the window openings. There are generally six-over-nine double-hung windows throughout the house flanked by white wooden louvered shutters. There are two dormer windows on the north and south elevations, four dormers on the west, and three on the east. All the dormers have gable roofs and are six-over-six double-hung windows. The mansard roof is covered by slate tiles and has a denticulated cornice line.

The house has a central hall. A curving open string staircase was installed in the 1940s. Southwest of the hall is the dining room and to the southeast is the kitchen. Northwest of the hall is the living room and to the northeast is the study. A doorway marks the break in the hall between the west and east rooms, a step leads down to the eastern section.

The dining room has random width flooring which runs north-south; the remainder of the house has narrow floor boards running east and west. The ceilings and walls are plaster over lath. Doors are paneled and in some cases there are double doors between rooms.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		Local History	

SPECIFIC DATES

1796-1814

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Thomas Riggs

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Bordley's Choice, for many years the home of the famous Brookeville Academy, was associated with the prominent Riggs family of Montgomery County in its early years. When Samuel Riggs died in 1814 part of his bequest to his son Thomas was 100 acres of "Bordley's Choice".¹ It is popularly believed² that Thomas had been living on that acreage and had built a home there around 1796 when he married his cousin Mary Hammond Riggs although this had not been documented. After his inheritance he was assessed not only for his land, 80 acres of "Bordley's Choice" @ \$4.92 per acre, but for \$113 of other property, and for two slaves,³ which would indicate a real homestead.

The property passed to Thomas's daughter, Caroline E. Dorsey, in 1845⁴ but apparently she never lived there for any length of time.⁵ In 1862 the Dorseys sold the land out of the Riggs family to Leonard Weer for \$3548.12⁶. The Weers suffered financial setbacks and in 1867 were forced to sell their property to satisfy creditors. The equity suit provides a description of the property as a "fine stone dwelling, comfortable kitchen, stone dairy, good stabling and other necessary out-buildings, all in good repair".⁷ As a result of the sale, which brought \$4000, the property came into the hands of the Brookeville Academy⁸ which had expanded beyond the limits of its building in the town of Brookeville.

The building was enlarged to make it suitable for a school, the original house being incorporated into the new stone structure. This growth is reflected in its assessment for improvements of \$3000 in 1876.⁹ The school continued in this building until it ceased to function in 1923 at which time it was sold with 22 acres to Elijah and Laura Alvord.¹⁰ Bordley's Choice was purchased by Charles and Anita Ecles in 1936,¹¹ who sold it to Dr. Mark V. Zeigler in 1941.¹² During their 20-year residence, the Zeiglers restored the grounds and house, turning Bordley's Choice into a local showplace. In 1961 the Convent of Jesus and Mary acquired the property for their expanding community.¹³ The building was easily adapted to their use, the major modification being the conversion of the dining room into a chapel. The present owners bought the house and 20 acres in 1966.

(footnotes on Attachment Sheet A)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

FOOTNOTES:

- 1 Montgomery County Register of Wills, I 26 (June 1814).
- 2 Roger B. Farquhar, Old Houses and History of Montgomery County, Maryland, p. 206.
- 3 Montgomery County Tax Assessment Records, 1831.
- 4 Register of Wills, Z119 (Feb. 1845).
- 5 The assessments during her ownership refer to Caroline and Caleb Dorsey of Howard County and show no separate assessment for improvements on the property. Montgomery County Tax Assessment Records, 1831.
- 6 Land Records of Montgomery County, JGH 8/550 (March 1862).
- 7 Montgomery County Circuit Court, Equity Suit EBP 1/1 #171-1867.
- 8 Land Records, EBP 6/218 (April 1869).
- 9 Tax Assessment Records, 1876.
- 10 Land Records, 338/446 (Sept. 1923)
- 11 Ibid., 648/450 (Dec. 1936).
- 12 Ibid., 858/277 (Dec. 1941).
- 13 Ibid., 2885/643 (Sept. 1961).

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Farquhar, Roger B., Old Houses and History of Montgomery County, Md., Silver Spring, Md., 1962.

Montgomery County Register of Wills

Montgomery County Tax Assessment Records

Land Records of Montgomery County

Montgomery County Circuit Court, Equity Suits.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 20.41 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES**

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Roberta HahnCandy Reed - Arch. Description

ORGANIZATION

Sugarloaf Regional Trails

DATE

July 1979

STREET & NUMBER

Box 87

TELEPHONE

926-4510

CITY OR TOWN

Dickerson

STATE

Maryland 20753

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

1605715204

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME				
COMMON:				
Merrywood				
AND/OR HISTORIC:				
Bordley's Choice or Riggs House				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
Georgia Avenue (Rte. 97)				
CITY OR TOWN:				
Brookeville				
STATE:			COUNTY:	
Maryland			Maryland	
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work In progress
		Public Acquisition:		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
		<input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment		<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum		<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific
		<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ _____ _____
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME:				
Dr. M. J. Reitman				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
Georgia Avenue (Rte. 97)				
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:	
Brookeville			Maryland	
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:				
Montgomery County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:	
Rockville				
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY:				
Historic Sites in the Bi-County Region				
DATE OF SURVEY: 1969 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
8787 Georgia Avenue				
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:	
Silver Spring			Maryland	

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Uncolored	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE						
<p>The house is a square, two story, stone building, now with a belled mansard roof, sitting on a high foundation. The main (west) facade is three bays with a central doorway. There is a transom light above the door; the entire doorway has a stone surround. The windows are 6/9 double hung sash with brick surrounds; the surrounds have low segmentally arched heads. There is a board frieze below the cornice. A two story, pedimented porch now covers the center bay; it has round column supports. At either end are double brick chimneys.</p> <p>On the rear elevation, the earlier house can be seen. It was three bays, with the entrance in the north bay, and two stories tall. The windows were spanned by stone lintels and had small 6/6 double hung sash. The additions of the north end and the west facade are in a different color stone and the joints between the sections are visible. This older house was also lower than the present structure and apparently had an A-roof. The corners are rounded and more strongly defined than in the addition which was probably stuccoed.</p>						

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

M. 23-66

B. SIGNIFICANCE**PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)**☐ Pre-Columbian☐ 16th Century☒ 18th Century☐ 20th Century☐ 15th Century☐ 17th Century☒ 19th Century**SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)****AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

Aboriginal

☐ Education☐ Political☐ Urban Planning☐ Prehistoric☐ Engineering☐ Religion/Phi-☐ Other (Specify)☐ Historic☐ Industry

lesophy

☐ Agriculture☐ Invention☐ Science☐ Architecture☐ Landscape☐ Sculpture☐ Art

Architecture

☐ Social/Human-☐ Commerce☐ Literature

itarian

☐ Communications☐ Military☐ Theater☐ Conservation☐ Music☐ Transportation**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

At one time (1870's) the Brookeville Academy was housed in the building. The original house was built by Thomas Riggs.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

M:23-66

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Christopher Owens, Park Historian

ORGANIZATION

M-NCPPC

DATE

11 Nov 74

STREET AND NUMBER:

8787 Georgia Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:

Silver Spring

STATE

Maryland

12.

State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature

ton and writing dispatches. He used a desk chair always known thereafter by the Bentleys as 'The Madison Chair.' "

Historians record that the President, before leaving the Bentley home wrote the following letter to his wife:

"My dearest: Finding that our army had left Montgomery Court House (Rockville) we pushed on to this place with a view to join it, or proceed to the City as further information might prescribe. I have just received a line from Col. Monroe saying that the enemy is out of Washington and on retreat to their ships, and advising immediate return to Washington. We shall accordingly set out thither immediately. I know not where we are in the first instance to hide our heads but shall look for a place on our arrival."

Brookeville was chartered by the legislature in 1808. It was named by one of the founders of the town, Richard Thomas, who named the town Brookeville after his wife, Deborah Brooke. Caleb Bentley, the President's host, was born in Chester County, Pennsylvania, in 1762, and came to Maryland just prior to 1800. He was named postmaster the day the village post office opened for its weekly deliveries in 1802. He



NO. 125 D-9 CALEB BENTLEY CA. 1800
BRICK

was also one of the founders of Brookeville Academy. He died in 1851.

The house is of brick, painted gray, and is believed to have been built about 1800, probably by Bentley. It contains a small front hall, a large parlor and a dining room and kitchen on the first floor. Four bedrooms are on the second floor.

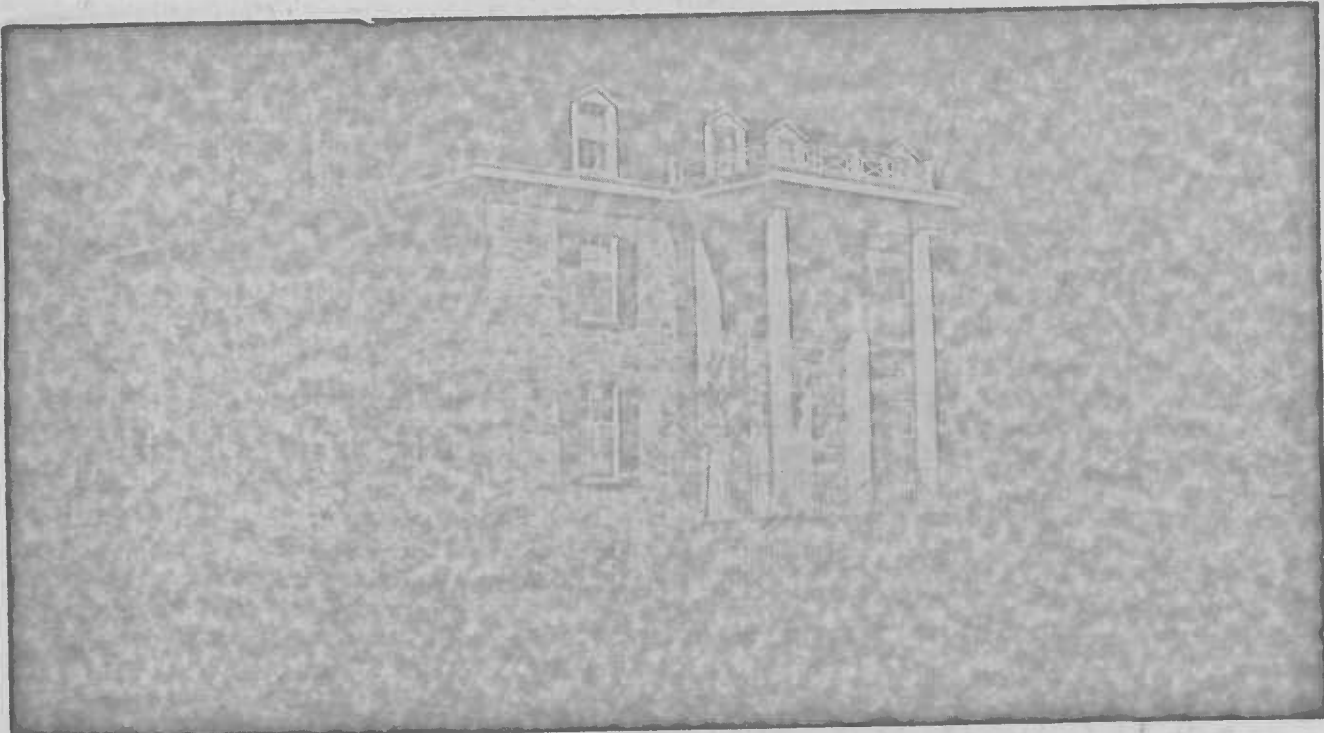
Henrietta Bentley was well acquainted with Dolley Madison, and visited her at the White House.

Marywood

THIS massive stone mansion possesses great dignity. Situated on a hill half-a-mile north of Brookeville on the road formerly known as the Westminster Pike, its white columns and great stone walls barely visible through the fine old trees, it forms a pleasing picture for the traveler on the highway two hundred yards away.

The house stands on that portion of Bordley's Choice which John Riggs devised to his eldest son, Thomas, in 1762. This property adjoined Pleasant Hill. Thomas Riggs was living at Bordley's Choice as early as 1756. If ever an earlier dwelling existed on this site, it was likely to have been of logs and part of the old structure which was removed when the present building was erected in 1868. Thomas Riggs died a bachelor in 1797. Two years before he had sold a hundred acres, including the site of this house, to his brother Samuel of Pleasant Hill.

His eldest son, who always signed himself Thos. Riggs of Saml., was born January 12, 1772, and appears to have been the builder of the original stone portion which is standing today. On November 17, 1796, he married his first cousin, Mary Hammond Riggs, daughter of Captain Elisha Riggs, and they established their home at this place. The original southeast corner of the present house which faces the west, was built before 1800. By the will of Samuel Riggs, probated in 1814, this property was devised to his son who had been living there for some years. Thomas and Mary had five children: Sarah Hammond Riggs, wife of Philemon Griffith and grandmother of the late Colonel Gustavus W. Dorsey, distinguished cavalry officer of the Confederate Army; Samuel Riggs; Caroline Fleanor Riggs, wife of Caleb Dorsey of Happy Retreat near Glenwood, Howard County; Elisha Riggs of T; and Thomas John Riggs who died a youth.



NO. 122 D-9 ORIGINAL THOMAS RIGGS CA. 1796 ADDITIONS 1868 STONE

Like his brothers, Reuben and Remus, Thomas Riggs of Saml. was a successful farmer and a life-long resident of Montgomery County. He owned about 600 acres in the county besides property in Anne Arundel. He held a commission in the state militia, took an active part in local affairs, and became a founder of the Brookeville Academy in 1815. He served as a trustee of this school for many years. His wife died in 1829, but he continued to reside at the old home until the marriage of his daughter, Caroline, in 1834. At that time he moved to Pleasant Hill and lived with his brother, Remus, until his death on January 10, 1845. He and his wife are buried at Pleasant Hill.

Samuel Riggs, born in 1800 in this old home, the eldest son of Thomas, became a noted banker in Baltimore and New York, associated with his uncle, Elisha Riggs, and was long the partner of George Peabody in a brilliant financial career. He died in New York in 1852.

At his death in 1845 Thomas Riggs of Saml. left the property to his daughter, Caroline. It was rented for a number of years before 1862, when the Dorseys sold it to Leonard Weer of Brookeville. He conveyed it to the Trustees of the Brookeville Academy soon after the Civil War.

This private school for boys was started in Brookeville in 1815. The original stone building used until 1868 still stands in the village. The man most prominently identified, however, with this academy in its century of existence was Elisha John Hall of Longwood, principal from 1836 to 1851. Many, indeed, were the older residents of this and neighboring counties, and others from more distant points, whose tutelage under this capable, but stern, gentleman was never forgotten. It is said that Mr. Hall, when seeking the position, arrived from a great distance on foot, a fact which impressed the trustees. Although anxious to employ him they were somewhat hesitant, wondering whether one so young could enforce the proper discipline. Being a man of powerful physique, he assured them that he would do his best, and soon afterward proved it by thrashing several of the older, more recalcitrant boys. From then on the whole school stood in awe, and ever after he was their generally feared, yet highly respected, preceptor.

The Academy was benefited by the passage of one of the first prohibition laws in Maryland. Its continuance was made conditional upon the wishes of the people of the area. In the 1833 session of the General Assembly, upon petition of

the trustees and neighbors of the school, a bill was enacted prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors within a mile of the establishment, and in time the same type of local option was adopted, elsewhere. Allen Bowie Davis, long President of the Board of Trustees, later said of the act, "The signing of that petition was among the first public acts of my life, and I now proudly look back on it as the best."

The Academy grew steadily, and shortly after the Civil War it was decided that a larger place was needed. Appropriately enough, the old home of Thomas Riggs was acquired, and the new addition, erected largely through the generosity of his nephew, Lawrason Riggs of Baltimore, was completed in 1868. The stone for it came from the quarry on John H. Riggs' farm at Locust Grove. In enlarging and remodeling the house, the original stone building became a corner of the new one. The attractive stairway, hall, and several rooms of the original stone house can still be seen. The new structure of three storys added a number of rooms, for the Mansard roof greatly increased the size of the top floor. On the first floor the addition provided for a huge school room, running across the entire north end of the house. On the second and third floors there are said to have been fourteen rooms. The kitchen, storeroom, and students' dining hall were in the basement.

Today there is a modern kitchen in the family dining room, while the former library has become a handsome new dining apartment in which the present owners have placed the beautifully carved mantel from the part built by the Riggses. The large school room has been divided to make a drawing room and library. On the upper floors there are a sitting room, eleven bedrooms, and six modern baths.

The school continued for many years, and the Academy was always a popular center, and the scene of innumerable social functions. As the public school system developed more fully, there was less need for such an institution and it ceased to function and the property was sold to Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Alvord, of Washington, D. C., about 1930. The grounds, with fine old ever-

green trees planted by students long ago, were much improved by careful planting, and a pond was built below the house toward the highway. Mrs. Alvord had a charming garden on the slope behind the house. They called the place Cedarstone. After a period of ten years or more, these popular residents returned to Washington. The property had the good fortune to pass into the hands of Dr. and Mrs. Mark V. Ziegler in 1941. They put the lawns in order, renovated the house, and restored the place to its former dignity. Today it is a beautiful and charming home, and for the past few years has been shown in the Maryland Garden Pilgrimage. Dr. Ziegler and his family are popular members of the community. He has given valuable and extended years of service, both in this country and abroad, in public health work and recently as director of the United States Public Health Service. His wife was Janet M. Bosley of Baltimore County.

In the spring of 1961, the Religious of Jesus and Mary faced the problem of providing for a rapidly increasing number of candidates to their Congregation. It was their happy fortune to discover that Dr. and Mrs. Mark V. Ziegler wished to sell their Brookeville property. With the approval of the Most Reverend Patrick A. O'Boyle, D.D., Archbishop of Washington, the Community purchased Ziegler's Choice, September 8, 1961. The stone structure was immediately transformed into a Provincialate and temporary Juniorate, housing a total of fifteen Religious.

The drawing room has been converted into a chapel, and the adjacent library into a reception room. The dining room and kitchen needed very little adaptation. The spacious recreation room on the ground floor serves as study room for the young Religious. The top floor provides a dormitory for these Sisters, while the second-story rooms are occupied by members of the Provincial Council.

Plans are already under way for the construction of a large Novitiate, which the Congregation hopes to build in the very near future, on this property now known as MARYWOOD.

M:23-66

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

See correspondence dated April 8, 1987

ACTION TAKEN

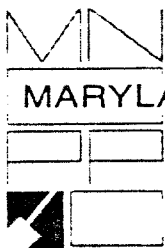
Final Draft Amendment to the Master Plan
OLNEY AREA HISTORIC RESOURCES

The purpose of this Amendment is to designate the following sites on the Master Plan for Historic Preservation thereby extending to them the protection of the County's Historic Preservation Ordinance, Chapter 24A of the Montgomery County Code.

M: 23/9	Elton
M: 23/29	Fair Hill II
M: 23/31	Pleasant Fields/Sundown Hills
M: 23/58	Gustavus Jones Farm
M: 23/63	Longwood
M: 23/66	Bordley's Choice (Merrywood)
M: 23/71	Far View
M: 23/73	Gittings Ha Ha
M: 23/79	Roslyn Bank Barn
M: 23/84	Brooke Meadow
M: 23/89	Walnut Hill
M: 23/98-4	St. John's Episcopal Church
M: 23/196-106	Oakdale-Emory United Methodist Church
M: 23/112	Sycamores
M: 23/113-1	Mount Pleasant Church
M: 23/119	Holland Store & House

M: 23/66

THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION
8787 Georgia Avenue • Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3760



RECEIVED

MEMORANDUM

March 21, 1986 MAR 24 1986

MARYLAND HISTORICAL
TRUST

TO: Richard Ferrara, Director
Department of Housing and Community Development
John L. Menke, Director
Department of Environmental Protection
✓ J. Rodney Little, Director
State Historic Preservation Office
Philip Cantelon, Chairperson
Historic Preservation Commission

FROM: Melissa C. Banach, Coordinator
Community Planning North

SUBJECT: Preliminary Draft Amendment to the Master Plan for
Historic Preservation: Northern and Eastern
Montgomery County Resources

I am pleased to transmit to you this Preliminary Draft
Amendment to the Master Plan for Historic Preservation:
Northern and Eastern Montgomery County Resources.

This document contains the recommendations of the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission on approximately 80 historic sites located in the Olney, Sandy Spring, Aspen Hill, and Burtonsville areas of the County.

The Montgomery County Planning Board will hold a public hearing on this Preliminary Draft Amendment on Monday, April 21, 1986, at 7:30 P.M., in the Auditorium of the Montgomery Regional Office at 8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland.

Should you have any questions concerning this specific Preliminary Draft Amendment, please do not hesitate to contact Marty Reinhart at 495-4565.

MCB:MR:dws
Attachment

PRELIMINARY DRAFT

AMENDMENT TO THE APPROVED AND ADOPTED
MASTER PLAN FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION IN
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

NORTHERN AND EASTERN
MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORIC RESOURCES

Including sites located in the Olney, Sandy Spring,
Aspen Hill, Norbeck and Burtonsville Areas

March 1986

An amendment to the 1980 Olney Master Plan, 1980 Sandy Spring/
Ashton Special Study Plan, 1970 Aspen Hill Master Plan, and the
1981 Eastern Montgomery County Master Plan; being also an
amendment to the General Plan for the Physical Development of the
Maryland-Washington Regional District and to the Master Plan of
Highways within Montgomery County, Maryland.

THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3760

14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-3090

IMPLEMENTATION

Once designated on the Master Plan for Historic Preservation, any substantial changes to the exterior of a resource or its environmental setting must be reviewed by the Historic Preservation Commission and a historic area work permit issued. The Ordinance also empowers the County's Department of Environmental Protection and the Historic Preservation Commission to prevent the demolition of historic buildings through neglect.

It is the intent of the Master Plan and Ordinance to provide a rational system for evaluating, protecting and enhancing Montgomery County's heritage for the benefit of present and future residents. The accompanying challenge is to weave protection for this heritage into the County's planning program so as to maximize community support for preservation and minimize infringement on private property rights.

THE AMENDMENT

The purpose of this Preliminary Draft Amendment is to consider the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission's recommendations that the following sites be designated on the Master Plan for Historic Preservation and protected under the County's Historic Preservation Ordinance, Chapter 24A of the Montgomery County Code. A copy of the Ordinance is provided in Appendix B of this document.

(NOTE: Unless otherwise specified in the Preservation Commission's nomination, the recommended environmental setting for each site is the entire parcel on which the resource is located as of the date it is designated on the Master Plan as defined in Section 24A-2 of the County's Preservation Ordinance. Where additional buildings of historical or architectural importance are associated with a site, these buildings are noted in the nomination as being part of the recommended setting.)

<u>Atlas #</u>	<u>Site</u>	<u>Location</u>
15/55	Spencer/Carr House	2420 Spencerville
-	Dating from 1855 with a rear section added in the 1870's, this three-story house is distinguished by three over three windows on the third floor and a one-story porch with bracketed pillars on the front facade.	
-	Significant as an example of the "Spencerville style", a local style characterized by a special grouping of architectural detail most notably half windows on the third story extending into the boxed cornice and roof line.	

23/66

Bordley's Choice (Merrywood)

20015 Georgia Avenue

- Began in 1763 and expanded circa 1868, this massive fieldstone structure today is most representative of mid 19th century Second Empire architecture.

- Associated in its early years with the prominent Riggs family of Montgomery County.

- Served for over 50 years as the home for the prestigious Brookeville Academy, a private school for boys started in 1815.

- The recommended environmental setting includes all outbuildings associated with site and the entrance drive to the main house.

23/71

Far View

21450 New Hampshire Avenue

- Example of a late 18th century stone farmhouse of simple styling possessing a clarity of line and high quality of workmanship.

- Included in the recommended environmental setting are the 1836 stone bank barn and slave quarters, which are notable for the quality of their masonry work.

23/79

Roslyn Bank Barn

20401 New Hampshire Avenue

- Fine example of a 19th century bank barn with refinement of details such as the stone columns.

- Built in the 1840's by Henry Stabler, prosperous local farmer and eminent horticulturist who developed the popular Stabler strain of corn.

- The recommended environmental setting consists of the building footprint of the frame bank barn.

23/82

Grafton Holland Farm
(Sunnymeade Farm)

2222 Brighton Dam Road

- Ca. 1830 -- Frame and log farmhouse built in three sections with each section representative of the evolution of rural architecture in the area.

- Associated with the Holland family, influential landowners and farmers in the Brookeville/Brighton area.

- The recommended environmental setting includes all outbuildings associated with the site.



#23-666

NAME BORDLEY'S CHOICE (MARYWOOD ect.)

LOCATION Rt 97 BROOKEVILLE, Md

FACADE SE

PHOTO TAKEN 11/11/74 MDWYER